



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**Amendment**

LCO No. 5636

**\*HB0582605636HDO\***

Offered by:

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SEN. GAFFEY, 13<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
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REP. HOVEY, 112<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. WITKOS, 17<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. JARMOC, 59<sup>th</sup> Dist.

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To: Subst. House Bill No. 5826

File No. 627

Cal. No. 377

**"AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT."**

1 Strike sections 4 and 5 in their entirety and insert the following in  
2 lieu thereof:

3 "Sec. 4. Section 10-222d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

5 Each local and regional board of education shall develop and  
6 implement a policy [, for use on and after February 1, 2003,] to address  
7 the existence of bullying in its schools. Such policy shall: (1) Enable  
8 students to anonymously report acts of bullying to teachers and school  
9 administrators and require students to be notified annually of the  
10 process by which they may make such reports, (2) enable the parents  
11 or guardians of students to file written reports of suspected bullying,

12 (3) require teachers and other school staff who witness acts of bullying  
13 or receive student reports of bullying to notify school administrators in  
14 writing, (4) require school administrators to investigate any written  
15 reports [filed pursuant to subdivision (2) of] made under this section  
16 and to review any anonymous reports, except that no disciplinary  
17 action shall be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report, (5)  
18 include [an] a prevention and intervention strategy, as defined by this  
19 act, for school staff to deal with bullying, (6) provide for the inclusion  
20 of language in student codes of conduct concerning bullying, (7)  
21 require each school to notify the parents or guardians of students who  
22 commit any verified acts of bullying and the parents or guardians of  
23 students against whom such acts were directed, [to be notified] and  
24 invite them to attend at least one meeting, (8) require each school to  
25 maintain a list of the number of verified acts of bullying in such school  
26 and make such list available for public inspection, and, within  
27 available appropriations, report such number to the Department of  
28 Education, annually and in such manner as prescribed by the  
29 Commissioner of Education, (9) direct the development of case-by-case  
30 interventions for addressing repeated incidents of bullying against a  
31 single individual or recurrently perpetrated bullying incidents by the  
32 same individual that may include both counseling and discipline, and  
33 (10) identify the appropriate school personnel, which may include, but  
34 shall not be limited to, pupil services personnel, responsible for taking  
35 a bullying report and investigating the complaint. The notification  
36 required pursuant to subdivision (7) of this section shall include a  
37 description of the response of school staff to such acts and any  
38 consequences that may result from the commission of further acts of  
39 bullying. For purposes of this section, "bullying" means any overt acts  
40 by a student or a group of students directed against another student  
41 with the intent to ridicule, harass, humiliate or intimidate the other  
42 student while on school grounds, at a school-sponsored activity or on a  
43 school bus, which acts are [repeated against the same student over  
44 time] committed more than once against any student during the school  
45 year. Such policies may include provisions addressing bullying outside  
46 of the school setting if it has a direct and negative impact on a

47 student's academic performance or safety in school. Not later than  
48 February 1, 2009, each local and regional board of education shall  
49 submit the policy developed pursuant to this section to the  
50 Department of Education. Not later than July 1, 2009, each local or  
51 regional board of education shall ensure that the policy is included in  
52 the school district's publication of the rules, procedures and standards  
53 of conduct for schools and in all student handbooks.

54 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) For the purposes of section 10-  
55 222d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the term  
56 "prevention and intervention strategy" may include, but is not limited  
57 to, (1) implementation of a positive behavioral interventions and  
58 supports process or another evidence-based model approach for safe  
59 school climate or for the prevention of bullying identified by the  
60 Department of Education, (2) a school survey to determine the  
61 prevalence of bullying, (3) establishment of a bullying prevention  
62 coordinating committee with broad representation to review the  
63 survey results and implement the strategy, (4) school rules prohibiting  
64 bullying, harassment and intimidation and establishing appropriate  
65 consequences for those who engage in such acts, (5) adequate adult  
66 supervision of outdoor areas, hallways, the lunchroom and other  
67 specific areas where bullying is likely to occur, (6) inclusion of grade-  
68 appropriate bullying prevention curricula in kindergarten through  
69 high school, (7) individual interventions with the bully, parents and  
70 school staff, and interventions with the bullied child, parents and  
71 school staff, (8) school-wide training related to safe school climate, and  
72 (9) promotion of parent involvement in bullying prevention through  
73 individual or team participation in meetings, trainings and individual  
74 interventions.

75 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is  
76 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
77 *1, 2009*):

78 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-  
79 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil

80 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or  
81 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such  
82 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)  
83 the nature and the relationship of drugs, as defined in subdivision (17)  
84 of section 21a-240, and alcohol to health and personality development,  
85 and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health and mental  
86 health risk reduction education which includes, but need not be  
87 limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and the  
88 relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy, sexually  
89 transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as defined in  
90 section 19a-581, violence, child abuse and youth suicide, (3) the growth  
91 and development of exceptional children, including handicapped and  
92 gifted and talented children and children who may require special  
93 education, including, but not limited to, children with attention-deficit  
94 hyperactivity disorder or learning disabilities, and methods for  
95 identifying, planning for and working effectively with special needs  
96 children in a regular classroom, (4) school violence prevention, [and]  
97 conflict resolution and prevention of bullying, as defined in subsection  
98 (a) of section 10-222d, as amended by this act, except that those boards  
99 of education that implement an evidence-based model approach,  
100 consistent with this act, shall not be required to provide in-service  
101 training on prevention of bullying, (5) cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
102 and other emergency life saving procedures, (6) computer and other  
103 information technology as applied to student learning and classroom  
104 instruction, communications and data management, (7) the teaching of  
105 the language arts, reading and reading readiness for teachers in grades  
106 kindergarten to three, inclusive, and (8) second language acquisition in  
107 districts required to provide a program of bilingual education  
108 pursuant to section 10-17f. The State Board of Education, within  
109 available appropriations and utilizing available materials, shall assist  
110 and encourage local and regional boards of education to include: (A)  
111 Holocaust education and awareness; (B) the historical events  
112 surrounding the Great Famine in Ireland; (C) African-American  
113 history; (D) Puerto Rican history; (E) Native American history; (F)  
114 personal financial management; and (G) topics approved by the state

115 board upon the request of local or regional boards of education as part  
116 of in-service training programs pursuant to this subsection.

117 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) The Department of  
118 Education shall, within available appropriations, (1) review and  
119 analyze the policies submitted to the department pursuant to section  
120 10-222d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) examine the  
121 relationship between bullying, school climate and student outcomes,  
122 (3) document school districts' articulated needs for technical assistance  
123 and training related to safe learning and bullying, (4) collect  
124 information on the prevention and intervention strategies used by  
125 schools to reduce the incidence of bullying, improve school climate  
126 and improve reporting outcomes, and (5) develop model policies for  
127 grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for the prevention of  
128 bullying. On or before February 1, 2010, the department shall, in  
129 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
130 submit a report on the status of its efforts pursuant to this section and  
131 any recommendations it may have regarding additional activities or  
132 funding to prevent bullying in schools and improve school climate, to  
133 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
134 cognizance of matters relating to education and to the select committee  
135 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
136 children.

137 (b) The department may accept private donations for the purposes  
138 of this section.

139 Sec. 8. Subsection (d) of section 10-145a of the general statutes is  
140 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
141 *1, 2009*):

142 (d) Any candidate in a program of teacher preparation leading to  
143 professional certification shall be encouraged to complete a school  
144 violence, bullying and suicide prevention and conflict resolution  
145 component of such a program."